IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6, 8, 9 and 10.

6. (currently amended) A method of forming <u>a</u> copper interconnect, comprising: forming a barrier layer over a substrate having at least one trench therein; forming a copper seed layer on the surface of the barrier layer; forming a copper layer over the barrier and seed layers;

removing a portion of the copper layer by chemical mechanical polishing with a first slurry comprising a chelating organic acid buffer system, colloidal silica, and a low electrochemical oxidizer; and

removing at least a portion of the barrier layer by chemical mechanical polishing with a second slurry comprising a chelating organic acid buffer system, and colloidal silica[[;]], wherein the second slurry is formed without the oxidizer.

- 7. (original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the barrier layer comprises tantalum.
- 8. (currently amended) The method of Claim [[7,]] <u>6</u>, wherein the chelating organic acid buffer system comprises citric acid and potassium citrate.
- 9. (currently amended) The method of Claim [[8,]] <u>6</u>, wherein the oxidizer comprises hydrogen peroxide.
- 10. (currently amended) The method of Claim [[9,]] <u>6</u>, wherein the first slurry further comprises a corrosion inhibitor.
- 11. (original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the first slurry has a pH in the range of 3 to 6, and the corrosion inhibitor comprises benzotriazole.

-2-